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USDA Club News

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AUGUST, 1953.

DALLAS, TEXAS.

The Romance of Records

Who started it we don't know, but it dates back beyond Neanderthal Man, with his crude chisel, and urge to "leave his mark" for posterity. Records, we're referring to!

Since then man has come a long way but essentially, he has changed his basic idea but little--only ways and means of putting his ideas into permanent form--"for the record."

From the chisel and stone, the hieroglyphic'd clay tablets, the papyrus and vellum scrolls, to the

(See page 2 please)

John Bolish To Transfer To Denver.

At the regular monthly meeting of the USDA Board of Directors the following motion was made by Mr. Lee P. Pierson:

"RESOLVED: First, that we commend Mr. John W. Bolish for his outstanding work as past President of the Club, and as Chairman and member of various committees through the years, for services rendered that are ben-

(See page 2, please)

Picnic, Party, Coming Up!

Barring fire, flood, or other things beyond the control of Tulane Smith's Committee on Personal Acquaintance and Arrangements, come this Friday, August 21, 7:00 p.m., all USDA members will be at the corner of Ilano and Skillman, in Tietze Park, set for an evening of fun and feast-ivity. Every member who isn't there should have either (a) a good excuse, or, (b) his head examined...Seriously, tho, you will enjoy it, so be there if you can make it!

Tickets will be distributed by section chiefs at 50¢ each. Admitting all the family..one or a dozen. Bring your appetite because there will be ice cold watermelons--all you can eat...Bring also, a picnic basket and relax in the cool of the evening. Your 50¢ is donated to the USDA entertainment fund.

Civil Service Catechism...

(Installment # 3; see back issues for # 1 and 2)

Q. Does it make any difference when I pay my deposit or redeposit into the Retirement Fund?

A. Yes, the longer you delay the more it will cost because you will have to pay interest, too. If the amount due June 30, 1953 was \$200.00 it would be \$311.00 if paid June 30, 1968.

Q. How are the payments made?

A. You must submit your application through the agency employing you to the Civil Service Commission who will then advise you how much you must pay, and the manner of payment. If you elect you may make it in installments of not less than \$10.00 during active employment.

Q. May I use the payroll deduction plan in paying?

A. Installment payments may not be deducted.

Q. Should I be unable to make full payment due what
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QUESTES

WINE HAS TWO DEFECTS: IF YOU ADD WATER TO IT YOU RUIN IT; IF YOU DO NOT ADD WATER, IT RUINS YOU.--LeBEAU II

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THREE HELPING ONE ANOTHER WILL DO AS MUCH AS 6 SINGLY.

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CIVIL SERVICE CATECHISM... (Continued from P. 1)

happens to the installments already paid in?

- A. If a deposit it is credited to you and the annuity otherwise payable is reduced by 1/10 of the unpaid balance (with interest) due into the fund. If a redeposit it is applied on any full periods of service to the best advantage and any amount not so used is refunded to you .
- Q. If I desire no credit for service covered by a deposit or redeposit may I waive such credit?
- A. Yes, you may eliminate any complete period of service for annuity computation purposes.
- Q. Why should I desire to waive credit?
- A. It may be to your advantage ,if--under the 80-per cent limitation in annuity computation--additional payments would produce little or no increase in your annuity.
- Q. May I pay the deposit or redeposit after being separated from the service?
- A. Yes, if you have present or future annuity rights. Payment must be made in a lump sum and may be made at any time up to the time your annuity claim is finally validated.
- Q. Is credit allowed for leave without pay?
- A. Yes,,provided you are on LWOP for a period not exceeding 6 months per calendar year.
- Q. Does the 6-month limit apply in all cases?
- A. No, in the event you enter the armed forces or are receiving benefits under the Compensation Act the entire LWOP period is credited without deposit.
- Q. Is double credit allowed for foreign service?
- A. No.
- Q. Is service under another Federal retirement system creditable under the Civil Service Retirement Act?
- A. Yes, if you are not receiving benefits from the ot

THE ROMANCE OF RECORDS

(from page 1...)

present-day parchment, magnetic tape, and micro-film, it is still a record of some act, achievement, or event of a person or thing.

And that brings us to the present. To USDA and its Records Management Sections. Briefly, (what it is), it is a system of records house-keeping---getting 'em, keeping 'em, destroying 'em. Each step achieved with the most economical, efficient utilization of space and manpower. It (what it does) keeps available until needed the answer to any USDA question based on past actions,, events, of persons or things. These "answers" are coded and

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JOHN BOLISH TRANSFERS.....

(From page 1)

official to employee's welfare and education, and--in general--for the outstanding services rendered to the USDA Club of Dallas;

SECONDLY, that we express regret at the loss of such an outstanding member;

FINALLY, that we congratulate the Denver USDA Club on obtaining a man with the ability of Mr. Bolish, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Denver USDA Club."

Judge Pierson's motion was seconded by Mr. Wendell Pickering, and carried unanimously.

(The USDA News would like to add that one of the reasons the Dallas USDA Club has a national reputation for being a "LIVE-WIRE" Club is because of such members as John Bolish. We have several others like him, but we can't spare a one-er.)) We'll miss you, John!)

The USDA Club News is published monthly at 912 South Ervay, fifth floor Lowich Building. Send all news contributions to that address or telephone the editor, ST-5611, extension 2044. Want-ads welcome, but please keep'em brief!

* James L. (Jimmy) Hyles *

.. EDITOR

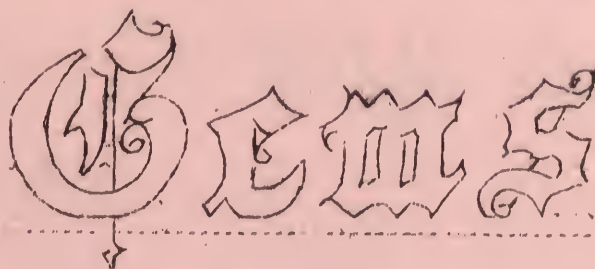
SHORT - SHOTS - -

Someone somewhere has very wisely said, Lord, give me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things that need changing, and the wisdom to know which is which.

Compressed into that sentence is a mighty nice philosophy of living. If we put it to work for us it can cut down on our worry quotient. Almost everyone worries too much in the "tug and haul" of today's headlines. Coming to work recently we noticed two headlines in the lobby news-rack, one saying "400,000 jobs to be filled before July '54" (Federal); the other: "Thousands of governmental workers to lose jobs".

Obviously, at first reading, both couldn't be right, but paradoxically, as we digested the full text of the two items, we saw that both could be right. Proper evaluation, correct interpretation was needed to make them fall into proper perspective. This is true alike of either the latest news item or the latest Washington directive regarding our jobs in USDA.

Confronted with today's uncertainties it might help to remember that nothing is certain in this life except this: If you do the best you can with what the good Lord gives you, you need not worry too much. He'll do it for you.



Guard well thy words--How else can thou be master of thyself?

Well-poised and courteous speech can make thee king among thy fellow men.

Keep watch upon thyself, and govern well thy lips, as doors unto a treasure-house,

That nothing may be stolen from thee unawares by sudden moods.

---Mabel P. Haskell

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YOU CAN'T GIVE AWAY KINDNESS: IT ALWAYS COMES BACK!

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The FIRST thing to save for your old age is YOURSELF.

INCREASED INTEREST SHOWN IN FHA EMPLOYEE AWARDS.

Latest figures show an increase in the number of employee suggestions accepted in the FHA Management Improvement Program, with a decrease in the number submitted in 1953, as compared to 1952. It also shows an increase in the number of cash awards, with estimated first-year savings to the government running over double the amount of last year. This is definite proof that employees are "pinpointing" the suggestions and backing them up with enough research data to "bulls-eye" the target more often. This in turn makes the judging committees job easier and more pleasant, for they really do like to say yes.

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DRIVE UNDERWAY TO MAKE CS RETIREMENT ANNUITIES TAX-

EXEMPT IN '54.

With all bills retaining their status, early action on the proposal to exempt Civil Service annuity payments from income tax levies is expected when the Congress convenes next year. Powerful support is given to the movement in view of the fact that benefits paid under the Social Security Act and annuities paid under the Railroad Retirement Act are tax free.

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FOR SALE :- Large Frame House--Rustic Lot--Re-decorated Inside and Out. JOE PHILLIPS, Ext.383

Did You Know...

...That Dr. P.V. Gardon will be inaugurating the 33rd year of the USDA Graduate School this fall when he starts accepting registrations for the more than 200 courses, on almost every subject under the sun?

....That smokers spent over 4 billion dollars for cigarettes last year, and that the smokers have more than doubled their daily consumption of fags in the past fifteen years?

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THOSE PMA PEOPLE ARE MOVING THAT FEED..!

When the drouth-stricken ranchers sent out their cry for help their S.O.S. got plenty of attention and action from the PMA (Service Of Supply) folks. To date they have either distributed or placed on order such items as 125,425 tons of cottonseed meal, pellets and cake, 1,037 carloads of oats, 821 cars of corn, and 53 cars of wheat. It is service like this, when it is really needed, that makes lasting friends for all branches of the Department of Agriculture, and Hilary Moseley and his Commodity Office boys (and girls!) can feel proud of the job they are doing.

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THE ROMANCE OF RECORDS...(From page 2)

correlated in chronological, alphabetical, numerical or some other sequence or arrangement for quick reference, and easy access.

Modern civilization creates a multiplicity of detail (why records management is necessary) which even modern man cannot commit to memory. And even if he could his mind couldn't function as a storehouse without sacrificing creative thinking, hence a "mechanical memory storeroom" is needed. Records management supplies that need. Those of you who are inclined to look on your "file job" as prosaic, monotonous, and unimportant, think for a moment, how marvelously different if we "knew all the answers" of past history from the dawn of man. For the Christian the Holy Bible--the inspired Word of God--supplies the gaps, but he takes it on faith. Suppose it were incontrovertibly corroborated with such data that the infidel, the agnostic, the unbeliever--all were convinced as the Christian is. We have no desire to go into theological discussion however, so we'll leave it there...Filing monotonous? It depends on how you look at it--whether you consider it merely "laying brick, or building a cathedral."

AS WE GO TO PRESS State FHA Director L.J. Cappleman is flying to Denver to confer with President Eisenhower on Texas Drouth policy. He will be accompanied by Claude McCan, State PMA Committeeman.

BRAIN-TEASERS

What is the only really two-faced action?

What is the pessimist's mathematical equation for this act?

(See answers to both below)

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PLENTIFUL FOODS LISTED

Beef continues in plentiful supply, with prices right. Other good buys for this period are potatoes, onions, frying chickens, ice cream, milk and other dairy products lard, salad oils, frozen fish.

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PMA OFFICES SHUFFLED ABOUT.

Latest moves in the PMA game of "musical chairs" saw the Office of Compliance and Investigation moving from the old Holland Building to the fifth floor of Terminal Annex. The Commodity Office, Office of Information Services, and resident employees of ASD are just getting settled in the Holland Bldg., 3306 Main, moving from 1114 Commerce. Area Personnel, recently located in the Interurban Bldg., is scheduled to quit the Holland Building around September 12 for the Federal Center in Denver, Colorado. The moves enumerated above involved about 425 persons.

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FHA PROCESSING LIVESTOCK LOANS

Carl Gallagher, FHA State Office, delivered personally the first livestock loans to Area Finance Office last week. They were speedily processed.

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TEASER ANSWERS: (a) A kiss; (b) Nothing divided by 2.